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29A 3485

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

MASARU MURASHITA

Serial No: 10/691,070

Filed: October 22, 2003

For: ULTRASONIC DIAGNOSTIC
APPARATUS

Art Unit: 3737

Examiner: Francis J. Jaworski

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant for the above-identified application, upon which a Request for Continued Examination was filed on November 28, 2005, hereby submits a list of the following relevant arts as required by 37 CFR 1.98(b):

A. Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open (Kokai) No. 4-348745 published in Japan on December 3, 1992;

B. T. Yagi, et al., "The effects of a trackball-derived region of interest using acoustic quantification method", *JSUM Proceedings*, November 1993, pp. 517-518;

C. Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open (Kokai) No. 2000-300555 published in Japan on October 31, 2000;

D. T. Taxt, et al., "Noise reduction and segmentation in time-varying ultrasound images", *Proceedings of the International Conference on Pattern Recognition*, Atlantic City, June 15-21, 1990. Conference A: Computer Vision and Conference B: Pattern Recognition Systems and Applications, Los Alamitos, *IEEE Comp. Soc. Press*, US, 1990-06-16: 591-596; and

E. European Patent Publication No. EP 1 152 364 published by the EPO on November 7, 2001.

The above-listed prior art A-C, are cited in the Office Action of January 25, 2006 by the Japanese Patent Office for Japanese patent application No. 2002-330856 which is a counterpart application to the above-identified U.S. application. Copies of the Japanese Office Action together with the English translation of the Office Action are enclosed. Since the English translation of the Japanese Office Action is enclosed and an English language abstract of prior art A and C is attached to the copy thereof, pursuant to MPEP §609, the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance pursuant to 37 CFR 1.198(a)(3) for each one of the non-English language prior art is satisfied, and an English concise explanation thereof is omitted herein.

Prior art D-F are cited in the Office Action of January 26, 2006 by the European Patent Office for European patent application No. 03 023 959.4 which is a counterpart application to the above-identified U.S. application. A copy of the European Office Action is enclosed.

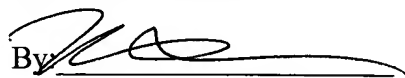
Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97, the required statement is presented as follows:

Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

Please charge any additional costs incurred by or in order to implement this Information Disclosure Statement (including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p)) which is required for the present Information Disclosure Statement to be considered to KODA & ANDROLIA DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 11-1445.

In view of the above, it is therefore respectfully requested that the Patent Office make a record of these relevant arts and consider them.

Respectfully submitted,
KODA & ANDROLIA

By 

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Dated: March 1, 2006

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

March 1, 2006

Date of Deposit

William L. Androlia

Name

3/1/2006

Signature

Date



FORM PTO-1449			Docket Number (Optional) 29A 3485		Application Number 10/691,070	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION			Applicant Masaru Murashita			
(Use several sheets if necessary)			Filing Date 10/22/2003		Group Art Unit 3737	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION (YES/NO)
	JP 4-348745	12/3/1992	Japan			
	JP 2000-300555	10/31/2000	Japan			
	EP 1 152 364	11/7/2001	EPC			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
	T. Yagi, et al., "The effects of a trackball-derived region of interest using acoustic quantification method", <i>JSUM Proceedings</i> , November 1993, pp. 517-518					
	T. Taxt, et al., "Noise reduction and segmentation in time-varying ultrasound images", <i>Proceedings of the International Conference on Pattern Recognition</i> , Atlantic City, June 15-21, 1990. Conference A: Computer Vision and Conference B: Pattern Recognition Systems and Applications, Los Alamitos, <i>IEEE Comp. Soc. Press</i> , US, 1990-06-16: 591-596					
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED				